

Art & Science

THE COMMUNITY TECTONICS NEWSLETTER

Dynamic Designs for Growing Congregations

For hundreds of years, churches have faced the challenge of reaching people with their message. The drive to reach and disciple more people is one common thread that nearly all churches have in common.

At the same time, progressive churches work to understand what their congregations need from their churches. What features of a church enhance its mission? What new facilities will keep members of the congregation engaged and excited about the church? What especially appeals to the young people in the congregation?

Community Tectonics has worked with numerous churches throughout the region, helping them plan for, design and build facilities with answers to these questions. As a result, churches are benefiting from the design firm's commitment to master planning and its understanding of a building's impact on its community.

In addition, as a recognized authority in the design of educational facilities, Community Tectonics' special expertise is being tapped by churches as they add educational facilities oriented features to their building programs.

(Continued on page 2)



Tectonics: The Art and Science of

(Continued on back)

Designs For Education

“As churches become more involved in education, we have the opportunity to blend the lessons learned from decades of design work in both areas. Today, both churches and schools benefit from designs that are flexible, adaptable and capable of serving multiple purposes or ministries,” notes Don Shell, CEO of Community Tectonics.

He explains that many contemporary space needs in churches are similar to the requirements for educational facilities, such as recreational areas, food services, administration, libraries, large assembly areas and community rooms.

“Rather than duplicate these spaces, we work with churches to develop adaptable, multi-purpose spaces,” Shell notes.

“A new form of architecture has evolved for churches,” he asserts. “Sunday School facilities are becoming part of a new and expanded educational space.”

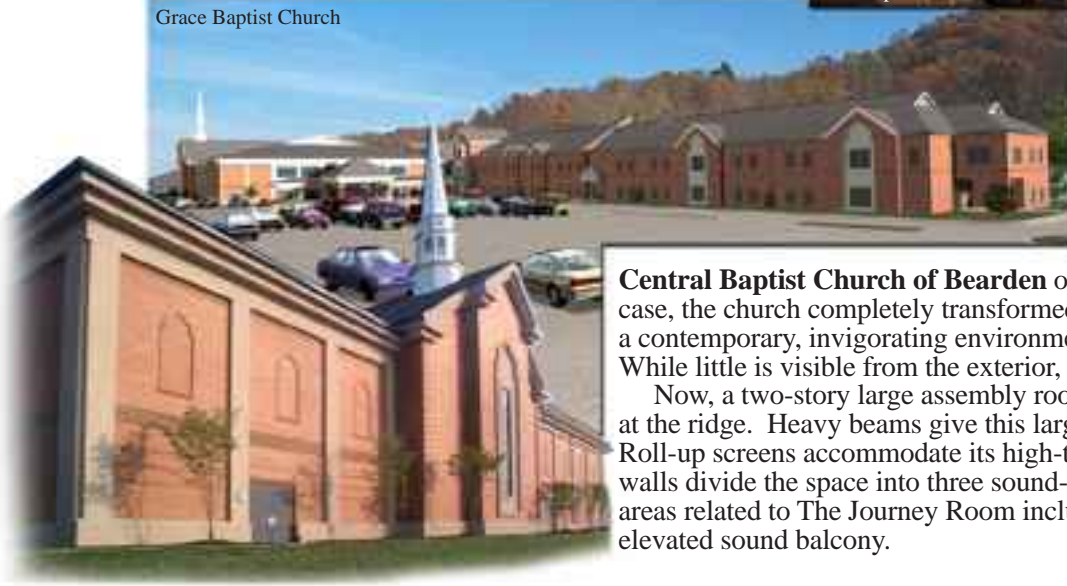
For example, **Grace Baptist Church** in Knoxville recently completed a new facility for their K-8 Christian Academy. The 40,100-square-foot structure adjacent to their sanctuary on Oak Ridge Highway includes 27 new classrooms, library, administrative offices, expanded kitchen and dining space, and a fellowship hall for the church. This new space will also be used for Sunday School each week.

At **First Baptist Church of Cleveland**, a renovation/new construction project several years ago was also designed to help the church grow while remaining on its existing property.

By adding 30,000 square feet and renovating almost 30,000 more square feet, the Community Tectonics design added 29 new classrooms, a resource area and a kitchen. Some of the existing classrooms were converted into a fellowship lobby, a library, a senior adult department and a young adult department.

In the process, special attention was given to coordinating the design of the original structure with the new addition. That effort was recognized with an Award of Merit from the Masonry Institute of Tennessee.

Grace Baptist Church



Designs That Attract Youth

Many times, special architecture is required to meet the needs of the younger generation in a community. Such is the case at **Westmore Church of God** in Cleveland.

Rev. Henry Smith explains that his church has acquired the franchise for a new concept, the 180-Degree recreational ministry for young people. The name is derived from this simple concept: when a young person makes a commitment to God, they experience a complete turn-around in their life. The Westmore Church of God purchased 14 acres of property a couple of miles from their church and turned to Community Tectonics to turn their vision into reality. Together, they visited similar facilities and discovered one in Georgia that was closely related to what was envisioned for Cleveland.

The architects and interior designers at Community Tectonics then went to work to create a unique building experience that combines entertainment, music and a wide variety of activities.

The theme for Westmore’s “180 Center” is the great outdoors.

Rev. Smith explains that the facility reaches young people as a fun recreation center that is also a disciple ministry for the church. Its distant location also helps make it more inviting to the non-churchgoer, he adds.

He commends the design team for its unique and creative ideas “which we were willing to accept.” These include a stairwell that looks like a natural rock formation, creative climbing walls, a tree that climbs out of the sheetrock, and an actual Land Rover positioned as if overlooking a bluff.

The 23,886-square-foot multi-purpose space includes an



First Baptist Church Cleveland

auditorium with a platform and a full-size basketball court. Other spaces include a kitchen and café area, exercise room, game room, reception area, office lobby, restrooms and storage room.

Another youth-oriented project recently designed by Community Tectonics was The Journey Room for

Central Baptist Church of Bearden on Deane Hill Drive in Knoxville. In this case, the church completely transformed a 1950's section of their building into a contemporary, invigorating environment for youth and young adult worship. While little is visible from the exterior, the interior renovations are extensive.

Now, a two-story large assembly room features cathedral ceilings 25 feet high at the ridge. Heavy beams give this large assembly space a rustic lodge feel. Roll-up screens accommodate its high-tech audiovisual capability, and operable walls divide the space into three sound-separated areas when necessary. Other areas related to The Journey Room include a kitchenette, computer area and elevated sound balcony.

f Creating Structures That are Both



New United Church Master Plan

Master Plans for Complex Projects

One of the most progressive designs Community Tectonics has ever worked on for a church is the facility master plan for **New United Church** in Chattanooga. The design firm was chosen after an intensive selection process that included 40 architectural firms across the U.S.

Jimmy Anderson, business manager for the church, says that after interviewing and visiting examples of work done by some of the architects, they selected the Knoxville firm because of its work with Grace Baptist Church in Knoxville.

“We just fell in love with Grace Baptist,” he says. He explains that both churches have experienced tremendous growth, with the need for large sanctuaries and choir areas.

Grace Baptist, completed in 1999, features a 2,200-seat sanctuary with a choir area for 200, comprehensive sound and lighting systems, and broadcasting and recording equipment. The sanctuary and its lobby, music support area, baptistry dressing area and other related spaces measure 62,500 square feet.

Anderson explains that New United’s pastor, Reverend McKinley Holloway, many years ago envisioned the need to expand the church and had the foresight to purchase 173 acres directly across from the existing sanctuary. By working with Community Tectonics on a master plan for the property, they were able to follow Rev. Holloway’s dream of a new sanctuary atop the highest hill, with the knowledge that all the pros and cons of that location had been considered.

While church projects are becoming increasingly complex throughout the region, Bill Vinson, president of Community Tectonics, says that the New United project is the most complex and progressive he has worked with so far.

The first phase of the 15-year master plan is a \$10 million sanctuary that will seat 2,300 with a choir capacity of 250, an orchestra pit, large screen viewing, and interior and handicapped access to balconies. A daycare facility will be soon to follow, along with a chapel to seat 500, a family life center and educational spaces.

Long-term goals of the master plan include a restaurant, retail mall, athletic fields and tennis courts, nine-hole golf course, lodge, condominiums and homes, and schools.

Anderson says that good communications has kept the community informed about the project throughout the planning process, including a 3D animated video that presents a virtual tour of the project that was created by the graphic design team at Community Tectonics.

“Master planning of this project was essential,” says Anderson. “It enables the entire congregation to see the vision, to show what can be done. It keeps us from wasting our resources by having to make major changes down the road. Plus, the plan has helped us gain support from the city,” he continues, noting that the plan has inspired the city to help with tax credits and move up the schedule on a road-widening project at the entrance to the new development.

Vinson echoes Anderson’s emphasis on master planning. Over the past 12 years, Community Tectonics has worked on more than 100 church projects. Vinson says he has seen the projects become more and more complex over the years.

“Too often, organizations find themselves dealing with crisis situations without adequate plans to guide them,” Vinson asserts. “Buildings have limits to their growth, and ways to accommodate growth must be planned for in a logical way. Most organizations can’t grow all at once; they can’t build everything they need at one time. A proper master plan provides foresight for the services that the church wants to provide in the future, just like the master plan for New United Church.”

“Master planning of this project was essential,” says Anderson. “It enables the entire congregation to see the vision, to show what can be done. It keeps us from wasting our resources by having to make major changes down the road.”

For more information on church architecture, contact Community Tectonics at (865) 637-0890 or visit our Web site at www.communitytectonics.com.



New United Church Sanctuary

Functional and Visually Pleasing.

Levonn Hubbard Makes NSBA Presentation

Dr. Levonn Hubbard, educational consultant with Community Tectonics, was asked to present a "Meet the Experts" clinic at the 62nd Annual Conference of the National School Boards Association held in New Orleans, LA in April 2002. The presentation was based on Dr. Hubbard's extensive experience in planning and building schools during his service as superintendent in four school districts.

He was a co-presenter with Dr. Dan Tollett, executive director of the Tennessee School Boards Association. The clinic topic was "Building School Facilities to Enhance Student Achievement and Safety." The clinic was well attended by about 200 school board members and school district directors and staff.

"Research has documented a correlation between good building design and student attendance, health and achievement," Dr. Hubbard said. "It has also been shown that school districts can save 20-40% on annual utility costs by applying high performance facility design and construction concepts."

Some other topics covered in the presentation were:

- Making Spaces More Efficient
- Improving Aesthetics and Environmental Concerns
- Designing for Ease of Maintenance
- Benefits of Routine and Preventive Maintenance
- Optimal Food Service
- Importance of Interior Design
- Design Considerations for Safety and Security



Anyone interested in receiving more information about the presentation may contact Penny Maples at (865) 637-0890 or by email at pmaples@communitytectonics.com.

Summer Hummer Scramble

For the thirteenth year in a row, Community Tectonics will host the annual Summer Hummer Scramble in conjunction with the Superintendents' Study Council. This year the Study Council location has been changed from Gatlinburg to Nashville, and the ever-popular golf tournament will be held at the Nashboro Golf Club on Tuesday, September 24.

Activities for the event will begin with lunch, followed by a round of golf and an awards presentation at dinner. Team awards will include first, second, and third place, highest score, and longest putt. Individual awards will include longest drive and closest to the pin. A putting contest will also be held.

Last year the event was held at Eagle's Landing Golf Club in Sevierville. A total of 54 golfers, including 18 school system superintendents and 3 State Department of Education staff, enjoyed the fellowship and golf. The event was sponsored by 26 different organizations, and the Walters State Community College culinary arts program catered breakfast and lunch.

Additional information for this year's tournament will be sent to each superintendent prior to the event.

K-12 Schools 2002 Calendar of Events

Community Tectonics supports, sponsors and/or participates in many activities related to Tennessee K-12 schools, including the following:

April 6-9 - NSBA 62nd Annual Conference, New Orleans

April 16-17 - Southeast Superintendents' Meeting, Fall Creek Falls

June 19-21 - Upper Cumberland Leadership Conference, Fall Creek Falls

June 26-27 - Summer Law Institute, Jackson Garden Plaza

July 26-27 - Summer Law Institute, Gatlinburg Park Vista

September 3 - South Central Fall District Meeting, Lewis County

September 5 - Southwest Fall District Meeting, Henderson County

September 9 - Northwest Fall District Meeting, Dyersburg

September 10 - Delta Fall District Meeting, Memphis

September 12 - Mid-Cumberland Fall District Meeting, Clarksville/Montgomery County

September 16 - Northeast Fall District Meeting, Hancock County

September 17 - East Fall District Meeting, Morgan County

September 19 - Southeast Fall District Meeting, Grundy County

Sept. 22-24 - Superintendents' Study Council, Nashville

September 24 - Superintendents' Summer Hummer Golf Tournament

September 24 - Upper Cumberland Fall District Meeting, Putnam County

Nov. 17-19 - TSBA Annual Convention, Nashville Opryland Hotel

Current Projects



Bradley Central High School Renovations

K-12 Schools:

Blythe-Bower Elementary School, Cleveland
Bradley Central High School Renovations
Caldwell Child Development Center Renovations, Nashville
Chuckey-Doak High School, Greene County
Claiborne High School, Claiborne County
College Street Elementary School Renovations, Manchester
Creekwood High School, Dickson County
Cumberland Gap High School, Claiborne County
Grace Christian Academy Addition, Knoxville
Greene County ADA Renovations
Jasper Elementary School, Marion County
Merroll Hyde Magnet School Additions/ Renovations, Sumner County
Monroe County Schools Renovations
Mosheim Middle School, Greene County
Mosheim Elementary School Reroof
North Coffee Elementary School, Coffee County
Pikeville Elementary School, Bledsoe County
Pittman Center Elementary School, Sevier County
Richard Hardy School, Richard City
Rigsby Elementary School Addition, Bledsoe County
Sevier County Schools Master Plan Update
Sumner County High School
Sweetwater High School Addition
Sweetwater Primary School
Sweetwater Schools Fire Marshal Corrections
Trousdale County High School
Union Elementary School Renovations, Sumner County
Walker Valley High School, Bradley County
Waterville Elementary School, Bradley County
West Middle School, Tullahoma
Westwood Primary School Additions/Renovations, Manchester
Westwood Junior High School Renovations, Manchester
Wheeler Elementary Addition, Bledsoe County
Whitwell Elementary School, Marion County

Higher Education:

Johnson Bible College Men's Dorm Addition
Lee University Behavioral Science Building, Cleveland
Lee University Dorm, Cleveland
Oak Ridge Center for Advanced Study
Pellissippi State Technical Community College, Safety Codes
Pellissippi State Technical Community College, Division Street HVAC, Phase II
Walters State Community College Pavilion Kitchen Modifications



Pittman Center Elementary School

Interior Design:

Clinton Utilities Board

Community/Commercial:

Clinton Utilities Board Renovations/Additions
Hugh Lodwick Residence
John Koehler Residence
U. S. Post Office Renovations



West Middle School, Tullahoma



First Baptist Church Cleveland-Proposed Renovations

Religious:

- Beaver Ridge United Methodist Church*
- Candies Creek Baptist Church*
- Central Baptist Church, Bearden*
- Additions/Renovations*
- Church of God Headquarters, Cleveland*
- First Baptist Church Cleveland Renovations*
- New United Church, Chattanooga*
- West Metro Church of Christ, Atlanta*
- Westmore Church of God, Cleveland*

Medical:

- Buffalo Valley Medical Clinics*
- Charlotte Medical Office Building*
- Gambro Healthcare, St. Peters, MO*
- Gambro Healthcare, Willingboro, NJ*
- Housing Development Corporation, Wartburg*
- PDI Dialysis Center, Charleston, WV*
- PDI Dialysis Center, Newark, NJ*



West Metro Church of Christ



Gambro Healthcare

Pre-Sorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 309
Knoxville, TN

**Community
Tectonics
LLC**

10651 Coward Mill Road
Knoxville, Tennessee 37931
phone: 865.637.0890
fax: 865.637.0894

Suite 133
1838 Elm Hill Pike
Nashville, TN 37210
phone: 615.889.3120
fax: 615.883.4287

Web: www.communitytectonics.com
E-mail: knoxville@communitytectonics.com
nashville@communitytectonics.com